

WHY DO I CARE?

WRITING AN EDITORIAL ARTICLE

In a newspaper or magazine, the editor of the publication typically has an article where he/she expresses his opinion about a current issue that would matter to their readers. For example, the editors for *The New York Times* and other newspapers often publish opinion articles about politics—a popular topic this year are the national and local political races!

In order to write a good editorial article, you must (1) collect the facts about an issue; (2) form an opinion about the issue; and (3) persuade your audience to agree with your opinion!

REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR ARTICLE:

Introduction Paragraph—

- Interest your audience immediately— consider these types of openings:
 - anecdote—short story that makes a point (maybe the most effective because it can put a “face” on this issue)
 - question—usually rhetorical
 - startling statistic or facts
 - description—to put the reader in a certain place/time
- Identify the issue of concern
- End with a Position Statement/Thesis Statement

Body Paragraphs— At least _____ paragraphs

- Use Topic Sentences (identify what your paragraph is going to be about)
- Provide Supporting details why the topic is a problem
- Remember these points when writing your body paragraphs:
 - Use facts, rather than just your opinion to make your points
 - Use a variety of persuasive techniques
 - Don’t get too complicated—only make one major point for each paragraph
 - Avoid “preaching” at your audience—no one likes a lecture!
 - Save your strongest argument for your last body paragraph

Conclusion—

- Suggest a course of action
- Remind your reader of your opening hook in some way